

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 24, 25, 28, 29, 38, 39, 47, 50-52, 55 and 56, and cancel claims 26, 27, 36, 37, 49 and 54.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of the claims in the application.

**Listing of the claims**

1-23. **(Canceled)**

24. **(Currently Amended)** A method of treating an individual who has metastasized colorectal cancer comprising the step of administering to such an individual a therapeutically effective amount of ~~a vaccine~~ an expression vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule that encodes a protein comprising ~~at least one epitope~~ the extracellular domain of human guanylyl cyclase C protein.

25. **(Currently Amended)** A method of treating an individual who has been identified as being susceptible to metastasized colorectal cancer comprising the step of administering to such an individual a prophylactically effective amount of ~~a vaccine~~ an expression vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule that encodes a protein comprising ~~at least one epitope~~ the extracellular domain of human guanylyl cyclase C protein.

26-27. **(Canceled)**

28. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim ~~27~~ 24 wherein the protein comprises the human guanylyl cyclase C protein.

29. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim ~~27~~ 24 wherein the protein consists of the human guanylyl cyclase C protein.

30. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 24 wherein the nucleic acid molecule that encodes said protein is within an infectious agent.

31. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 24 wherein the nucleic acid molecule that encodes said protein is within a viral vector.

32. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 31 wherein said viral vector is a recombinant vaccinia virus.

33. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 31 wherein said viral vector is a recombinant adenovirus virus.

34. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 24 wherein the nucleic acid molecule that encodes said protein is within a bacterial cell.

35. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 24 wherein the nucleic acid molecule that encodes said protein is a plasmid.

36-37. **(Canceled)**

38. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim ~~37~~ 25 wherein the protein comprises the human guanylyl cyclase C protein.

39. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim ~~37~~ 25 wherein the protein consists of the human guanylyl cyclase C protein.

40. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 25 wherein the nucleic acid molecule that encodes said protein is within an infectious agent.

41. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 25 wherein the nucleic acid molecule that encodes said protein is within a viral vector.
42. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 41 wherein said viral vector is a recombinant vaccinia virus.
43. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 41 wherein said viral vector is a recombinant adenovirus virus.
44. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 25 wherein the nucleic acid molecule that encodes said protein is within a bacterial cell.
45. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 25 wherein the nucleic acid molecule that encodes said protein is a plasmid.
46. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 25 wherein the individual has been previously been diagnosed with colorectal cancer.
47. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim ~~27~~ 24 wherein said protein comprises SEQ ID NO:2 or a fragment thereof comprising ~~at least one epitope of~~ amino acids 24-454 of SEQ ID NO:2.
48. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim ~~27~~ 24 wherein said protein comprises SEQ ID NO:2.
49. **(Canceled)**

50. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 49 47 wherein said protein comprises amino acids 24-454 of SEQ ID NO:2.

51. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 49 47 wherein said protein comprises amino acids 24-475 of SEQ ID NO:2.

52. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim ~~37~~ 25 wherein said protein comprises SEQ ID NO:2 or a fragment thereof comprising ~~at least one epitope of~~ amino acids 24-454 of SEQ ID NO:2.

53. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 52 wherein said protein comprises SEQ ID NO:2.

54. **(Canceled)**

55. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim ~~54~~ 52 wherein said protein comprises amino acids 24-454 of SEQ ID NO:2.

56. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim ~~54~~ 52 wherein said protein comprises amino acids 24-475 of SEQ ID NO:2.